

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2422

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 2478

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, SU, US

SUBJECT: AUGUST 19 MEETING WITH FRANCIS DENG: FINANCIAL ISSUES

REF: (A) KHARTOUM 2471, (B) STATE 185570

1. CHARGE REMINED DENG THAT MINFIANCE BIHEIRY WARNED US OF RISKS IN TOO DIRECT APPROACH TO KUWAITIS AND SAUDIS IN CONNECTION WITH TRILATERAL/QUADRILATERAL COOPERATION. DENG CONFIRMED THAT THIS REMAINS MINISTER'S VIEW. HE DID NOT SAY WHETHER GOS HAD YET APPROACHED EITHER DUWAITIS OR SAUDIS DIRECTLY ON MATTER IN CONNECTION WITH US-RELATED PROGRAMS, BUT APPARENTLY THERE HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN DISCUSSIONS WITH RESPECT TO WEST GERMAN-RELATED PROGRAMS.

2. ACCORDING TO DENG, SAUDIS AND KUWAITIS EXPRESSED CONCERN OVER THEY AND SUDANESE "TYING THEIR HANDS" BY TOO CLOSE COORDINATION WITH GERMANS. DENG, HOWEVER, BELIEVES THIS NOT NECESSARILY A PROBLEM, PARTICULARLY WHERE US INVOLVED. MOREOVER, DENG APPEARS LESS CONCERNED THAN BIHEIRY OVER US DISCUSSING COOPERATION DIRECTLY WITH SAUDIS AND KUWAITIS. ALTHOUGH BIHEIRY'S VIEWS ARE FOR NOW

Y
ILLL CONTROLLING, DENG THINKS AT ONE POINT USG SHOULD IN LOW KEY, INFORMAL MANNER INFORM GOK AND SAG THAT THERE HAVE BEEN IMPORTANT CHANGES RECENTLY IN BILATERAL RELATIONS
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BETWEEN US AND SUDAN AND THAT US LOOKS FAVORABLY ON

TRILATERAL/QUADRILATERAL COOPERATION. HE WOULD LIMIT OUR DISCUSSION TO THESE POINTS AT LEAST INITIALLY. HE WOULD NOT WANT US TO GET INTO SPECIFICS, BUT HE DOES THINK IT DESIRABLE TO INFORM KUWAITIS AND SAUDIS IN GENERAL OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS.

3. WHILE ON SUBJECT OF FINANCING OF VARIOUS PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS, DENG REFERRED TO DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK LAST JUNE BETWEEN BIHEIRY AND ASST. SECY SCHAUFLE. HE SAID GOS WILL BE INTERESTED IN WHATEVER GRANTS, LOANS, BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AND BUDGETARY ASSISTANCE USG CAN PROVIDE. DENG SAID HE WAS AWARE THAT IN RAISING THIS POINT NOW HE WAS PROBABLY PUTTING CART BEFORE THE HORSE. MOREOVER, HE PARTICULARLY DID NOT WANT TO APPEAR PRESUMPTUOUS (HIS WORD).

4. DENG DOES NOT EXPECT ANY REPLY OR ACTION NOW. IN THAT SENSE, HE MERELY WANTED TO INFORM US THAT THESE MATTERS WERE BEING REVIEWED IN GOS. HE ADVISED CHARGE TO SEEK APPOINTMENT SOON WITH BIHEIRY WHO APPARENTLY WILL RAISE THESE MATTERS IN MORE DETAIL.

5. CHARGE AVOIDED COMMENT EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT FINANCIAL QUESTIONS CUT ACROSS ALL OTHER AREAS OF DISCUSSIONS. IN ADDITION, HE NOTED THAT FINANCING WAS OBVIOUSLY AN IMPORTANT PART OF ANY COOPERATION WITH

SAUDI ARABIA OR KUWAIT. CHARGE THINKS APPOINTMENT WITH BIHEIRY MAY BE SET NEXT WEEK AND WE SHALL, OF COURSE, REPORT ANY REQUESTS HE MAKES. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY BACKGROUND OR GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE. BOGOSIAN

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